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23 April 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Highlights of 22 April Meeting of "Indo China Steering Group"

25X1C

1. There was a brief discussion of belated knowledge that [REDACTED] teams being used against the Chinese road had been issuing reports (some 15 to 20 in number) that are out-and-out fabrications. I questioned the nature of any requirement for intelligence collection by these teams, particularly in view of the availability of information from other sources. The teams were intended to make day to day truck counts and carry out certain psychological missions such as distributing leaflets and inspiring defections.

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2. [REDACTED] noted that there is a growing morale problem afflicting [REDACTED]. Many feel they have been extended beyond originally outlined tours. One particular issue was [REDACTED] unhappiness about a USAF plan to close up a hospital which had been available [REDACTED]. We have succeeded in stopping temporarily the closing of this facility.

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3. [REDACTED] both reported briefly on growing Congressional concern about killings of civilians in Vietnam. The [REDACTED] program is a particular target in this regard.

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4. [REDACTED] reported that the Director had received a new note from Henry Kissinger asking, in the light of recent CIA publications concerning infiltration, what can be done to improve our [REDACTED] take on this subject.

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5. [REDACTED] also noted that the State/Defense team which was established by the White House to assess the situation and prospects in Cambodia has asked for a CIA paper on the subject by 10 May. OCI and OER will doubtless be involved in the preparation of this.

25X1A

Deputy Director of Current Intelligence

Distribution:

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25 March 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Highlights of 25 March Meeting of "Indo China Steering Group"

- 25X1A 1. [REDACTED] reported there were no major current
25X6 problems with respect to the Meos in Long Tien. He re-
25X6 ported that [REDACTED] are asking for approval to put
some forces into Laos in order to block off any Com-
munist assistance. [REDACTED] 25X6
- 25X1A 2. [REDACTED] noted that a company of FAR troops pro-
25X6□ tecting the King in Luang Prabang laid down their arms
and have disappeared into the citizenry. 25X1A
- 25X1A 3. [REDACTED] reported that [REDACTED] has
ended and the [REDACTED] have pulled back. Nothing fur-
ther along this line is intended for a while.
- 25X1A 4. [REDACTED] referred to lengthy reporting received
25X1C [REDACTED] recently concerning Edgar Snow's four inter-
views with Mao. Mao's comments cover the domestic and
foreign scene. Mao seeks good relations with the US
but said the US must leave Indochina and "talk
seriously" about Taiwan. Mao labeled the Soviets as
China's "greatest enemy." Mao called his biggest prob-
lem that of rebuilding the party and the government. He
distrusts much of the officialdom in both institutions.
The reports will be disseminated today or tomorrow.
- 25X1A 5. [REDACTED] of SAVA reported that "CINCPAC" has 25X1C
ordered that there be no reduction in the [REDACTED]
carried out in Southeast Asia.
- 25X1A 6. [REDACTED] of ONE mentioned the scheduling of a
Thai estimate due to be out in late April or early May.
- 25X1A 7. [REDACTED] reported that the special China watch-
ing group has suspended its operations with the termina-
tion of [REDACTED]

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25X1A 8. [REDACTED] sought clarification as to whether we
are still prohibited from mentioning in our publica-
tions [REDACTED]

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25X1A 9. [REDACTED] reported that an OCI/OSR/OER memo
will be done in the next week or so on the Chinese
road construction in northwest Laos. There was a
brief discussion of the rather large amount of Chicom
AAA weaponry in this area.

25X1A 10. [REDACTED] referred to the release this
morning by the DCI of a memo (SC 04513/71) on the im-
pact of logistics on NVA offensive capabilities. This
memo was done by [REDACTED] and company and WSAG. There
was disappointment that time did not permit the full
coordination as had been planned of this memo. [REDACTED]
explained that the memo grew from earlier WSAG meet-
ings in which there had been division of opinion
between CIA and DOD on the logistics situation.
Kissinger had hoped this time for a coordinated paper.
DIA did not want to coordinate and has done their own;
so did we. The papers will be taken up at a meeting
of WSAG tomorrow.

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25X1A 11. [REDACTED] reported on discussions with Secretary
Laird early this week alerting the Secretary to possi-
ble future Agency needs in Southeast Asia for more
air support, funding and personnel assistance if cur-
rent programs are to continue.

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25X1A 12. [REDACTED] reported on recent WSAG meetings at
which DOD representatives had been very bullish about
the effectiveness of [REDACTED] and the Chup opera-
tions. Kissinger seemed quite cool to a lot he was
told.

25X1A 13. [REDACTED] reported that the Director's meeting
with the Senate Foreign Relations Committee this week
went well. The Committee appears to be quite anxious
to have another go at Lieutenant General Vogt who in
early February had briefed the Committee on the high

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prospects for success of [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Deputy Director of Current Intelligence

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